

## **COMMUNITY PRIORITIES PROGRAM QUARTERLY REPORT**

### **A. PROJECT IDENTIFIERS**

1. **Project Number:** 0025-DC-2001-17
2. **Project Title:** Community Priorities Program
3. **Name of Recipient Organization:** Department of Community & Economic Development, Division of Community & Business Development
4. **Project Officers:** Jo E. Cooper for DCED and Paul McIntosh for Denali Commission
5. **Funding:** \$4,500,000 in Federal funds and \$450,000 in local match
6. **Award Period:** April 9, 2001 through April 8, 2005
7. **Period Covered by this report:** April 2001 through December 2001 (Note: This is the first report submitted and therefore covers from project inception. The next quarterly report will cover January 2002-March 2002 and will be submitted as required by April 30, 2002.

### **B. PROGRAM SUMMARY**

The intent of the Community Priorities Program is to provide grants to communities through the Department of Community & Economic Development for fixed infrastructure and capital projects which are construction-ready and which have been identified in the community's development plan as a top priority. This program specifically excludes energy-related projects and health facilities.

The CPP program will fund no more than 2/3 of the total cost of any proposed project and the community must provide a minimum of a 10% local cash match. Communities must demonstrate a commitment to operation and maintenance costs of proposed facilities. CPP is intended to be funding of last resort. There is a maximum grant amount of \$500,000.

The application process for CPP consists of two steps. First communities are required to submit a Pre-Application. This is a simple 2 page form. If all threshold criteria appear to be met based on information included in the Pre-Application, the community is invited to submit a Full Application. Full Applications are reviewed on a Pass/Fail basis. If the community has demonstrated that the proposed project has met all the CPP requirements, and there is funding available, the project is funded.

The first Pre-Applications for this program were made available in May 2001. The Department advertised and made program forms available on it's web-site as well as initiating press releases and mail outs. Department staff have made presentations about the program to various audiences during the past 6 to 7 months. Brochures were developed and distributed which explain the program to interested parties.

Through December 2001, a total of 42 Pre-Applications have been received. A total of 13 of those Pre-Applications have met the criteria and have been invited to submit a Full Application. Of the 13 Full Applications received to date, 3 projects have been awarded funds; an additional 6 Full Applications remain "Active"; and 4 Full Applications are now considered "Inactive".

In addition to developing the program application forms and processes, Department staff have been busy developing Grant Agreement Forms, Amendment Forms, Financial Request for Reimbursement Forms, Progress Report Forms, and Labor, Residence, and Wage Report Forms for use with CPP.

### **C. PROJECT STATUS**

As mentioned earlier, 3 projects have been awarded funds to date. These include the following:

- **Native Village of Kwethluk:** The Department awarded \$100,000 to the Native Village of Kwethluk to complete construction of a Community Center building. The building will be 4800 square feet and will be used for community gatherings, conferences and activities, and office space for social service programs. The total project budget is anticipated to be \$1,043,500 with other funding coming from the Community Development Block Grant Program (both State and Indian); the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Disaster Grant Program; Administration for Native Americans; First Alaskans Foundation; and Kwethluk Housing Authority. The community has provided a local match of 10% or \$10,000. The grant agreement is currently being finalized. We had hoped to release funds sooner, but experienced delays in securing information needed to execute the grant. We expect to issue the grant this week. The majority of CPP funds will be used to purchase and install materials needed for the interior of the building, so it is expected that work can continue on the project throughout the winter months. Anticipated completion date is September 2002 at the latest.
- **Igiugig Tribal Village Council:** The Department awarded \$401,500 for construction of a road/landfill project in the community. The total project cost is estimated to be \$4,044,734 with other funds coming primarily from Village Safe Water and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Tribal Council is providing \$40,000 in local match.

The grant is currently being finalized. We expect that it will be released before the end of the year, after completion of environmental reviews. Scheduling of activities and ordering of materials will begin in March 2002; on-site construction will take place the following six to seven months; and the project is scheduled for completion by December 2002.

- **North Pacific Rim Housing Authority:** The Department awarded \$350,000 for a "Mixed Use Supportive Housing" project in Port Graham in November. The project will construct an assisted care facility with a two bedroom family/visitor unit and a one bedroom caretaker unit. There is currently not an assisted living facility in the community. Elders and disabled persons are moved to larger hub communities such as Homer or Anchorage when they require care beyond what they can receive at home. This project will allow elders and other disabled persons to remain in the community and contribute to the culture and values of Port Graham. The total project cost is expected to be \$550,000 with a 10% local cash match provided by the NPRHA. Other funds are provided by Alaska Housing Finance Corporation. The project is scheduled to get underway immediately and be completed by September 2002.

#### **D. PROJECT SPREADSHEET**

Please see attached.